

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-10 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03
NASA-01 NEA-11 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01
DOE-15 CEQ-01 OES-07 SS-15 ICA-11 /161 W
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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1508
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 02079

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, UN, FR
SUBJECT: UNSSOD: US-FRENCH CONSULTATIONS, MAY 22

1. SUMMARY: US (AMBASSADORS LEONARD, FISHER AND WEILER)
AND FRENCH (DISARMAMENT COORDINATOR TAITTINGER, AMB
LEPRETTE, AND GERGORIN, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF POLICY PLANNING
AT MEA) MET ON MAY 22. TOPICS DISCUSSED INCLUDED FRENCH
PROPOSAL FOR SATELLITE VERIFICATION AGENCY, DISARMAMENT
MACHINERY, DISARMAMENT/DEVELOPMENT, AND MONDALE AND
GISCARD SPEECHES. END SUMMARY.

2. SATELLITE VERIFICATION AGENCY.
TAITTINGER OPENED MEETING BY EXPRESSING SURPRISE AT US
DEMARCHE IN COPENHAGEN EXPRESSING OBJECTION TO "ANODYNE"
EC-9 DRAFT LANGUAGE ON INTERNATIONAL SATELLITE VERIFICA-
TION. GERGORIN THEN NOTED THAT LAST WEEK IN PARIS ACDA
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR NEWHOUSE HAD REGISTERED US OBJECTIONS
TO AGENCY PROPOSED BY FRENCH, AND SAID FRENCH ARE NOT AT
ALL CONVINCED BY US OBJECTIONS. (SEE PARIS 15744, EXDIS).
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ASSERTING THAT THE TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT OF SATELLITES
CAN NOT BE STOPPED, GERGORIN SAID THAT SUCH DEVELOPMENT
SHOULD BE HARNESSSED TO BENEFIT WORLD SECURITY AND TO
ADVANCE THE PROCESS OF DISARMAMENT. IN REPLY, LEONARD
POINTED OUT THAT TECHNOLOGICAL PROGRESS DID NOT OF ITSELF
IMPLY DESIRABILITY OF UN INTERNATIONAL AGENCY PROPOSED BY
FRENCH. HE UNDERScoreD CONSIDERABLE US DOUBTS WITH REGARD

TO FEASIBILITY OF SUCH AN AGENCY AND NOTED THAT LANGUAGE INSERTED BY FRENCH IN DRAFT SSOD TEXT CALLED FOR STATES TO GIVE TO UN SYG THEIR VIEWS ONLY ON STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION, NOT ON FEASIBILITY, OF POSSIBLE AGENCY. LEONARD SAID US WOULD PREFER THAT STATES BE PERMITTED TO ADDRESS ISSUE OF FEASIBILITY. GERGORIN REPLIED TASK OF SSOD WAS NOT TO DECIDE TO SET UP AN INTERNATIONAL VERIFICATION AGENCY, BUT SIMPLY TO DETERMINE WHETHER IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO STUDY THE DESIRABILITY OF SUCH AN AGENCY. FRENCH CLEARLY DO NOT WANT TO ADD ISSUE OF FEASIBILITY TO THEIR TEXT IN PROGRAM OF ACTION.

3. MACHINERY - LEONARD NOTED IMPORTANCE U.S. ATTACHES TO INVOLVING FRANCE IN MULTILATERAL DISARMAMENT NEGOTIATING BODY. IN REPLY TO QUERY, LEONARD SAID U.S. ALSO ATTACHES IMPORTANCE TO CHINESE PARTICIPATION THOUGH WE HAVE SEEN NO SIGN THAT CHINESE ARE RE-EXAMINING THEIR POSITION. FISHER POINTED OUT THAT WHILE U.S. WANT FRENCH PARTICIPATION FOR ITS OWN SAKE, SOVIETS DESIRE FRENCH PARTICIPATION SO AS TO ISOLATE CHINA. TAITTINGER STATED THAT SINCE PM BARRE'S VISIT TO PRC, FRENCH HAVE NOTICED EVOLUTION IN CHINESE POSITION ON DISARMAMENT QUESTIONS. TAITTINGER SAID THAT WHILE CHINESE SEEM TO BE IN GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH FRENCH PRINCIPLES ON DISARMAMENT MACHINERY, CHINESE ARE RELUCTANT ACTUALLY TO GET INVOLVED IN A DISARMAMENT NEGOTIATING BODY.
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4. GERGORIN SAID FRENCH VIEWS ON NEGOTIATING BODY REMAIN AS PREVIOUSLY STATED: (1) THERE SHOULD BE NO "DISCRIMINATION", WHICH IMPLIES END OF CO-CHAIRMANSHIP; (2) THERE SHOULD BE A NEW BODY, NOT AN "AVATAR" OF THE CCD; AND (3) THERE SHOULD BE A STRONG LINK TO UN. TAITTINGER ADDED THAT FRENCH AGREED NEGOTIATING BODY SHOULD BE GOVERNED BY CONSENSUS. IN REPLY TO QUERY AS TO HOW FRENCH ENVISION THAT NEW BODY AMENABLE TO THEM WOULD BE CREATED, GERGORIN ASSERTED FRANCE WAS FLEXIBLE AS TO MACHINERY BUT THEN SAID IT COULD NOT ACCEPT FOLLOWING SCENARIO: SSOD WOULD ESTABLISH GUIDELINES FOR NEW BODY; SUBSEQUENTLY CCD WOULD ACCEPT SAY 70 PERCENT OF THOSE GUIDELINES AND THEN, UNDER A NEW NAME PROCLAIM ITSELF THE NEW BODY. FRANCE WOULD INSIST, GERGORIN CONTINUED, THAT GA ITSELF TAKE ALL DECISIONS, THOUGH OF COURSE THESE DECISIONS WOULD BE TAKEN BY A CONSENSUS IN WHICH ALL PRESENT CCD MEMBERS WOULD PARTICIPATE. ONCE NEW BODY IS CREATED, CCD WOULD "COMMIT SUICIDE".

5. NOTING THAT SOME FORM OF U.S.-SOVIET BILATERAL CONSULTATION WOULD CONTINUE IN ANY EVENT, FISHER ASKED

WHETHER NATURE OF NEW BODY WOULD ENHANCE OR IMPEDE
PROSPECT THAT RESULTS OF SUCH CONSULTATIONS WOULD BE
CHANNELLED INTO THE MULTILATERAL FORUM. LEONARD RE-
PORTED THAT DURING HIS VISIT TO MOSCOW, SOVIETS HAD BEEN
CONCERNED TO ENSURE THAT IN CONTEXT OF POSSIBLE FUTURE
BODY THEY WOULD NOT BE REMONSTRATED AGAINST IF THEY MET
FREQUENTLY WITH U.S. ON BILATERAL BASIS. GERGORIN
RESPONDED THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO END U.S.-SOVIET
DOMINATION -- SYMBOLIZED BY THE CO-CHAIRMANSHIP -- OF
THE DISARMAMENT BODY. PURPOSE OF NEGOTIATING BODY, HE

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ASSERTED, IS NOT TO "RATIFY" U.S.-SOVIET AGREEMENTS BUT
TO ENSURE TRUE MULTILATERAL CONSIDERATION OF DISARMAMENT
ISSUES.

6. DISARMAMENT/DEVELOPMENT - TAITTINGER SAID THRUST OF
FRENCH PROPOSAL ON DEVELOPMENT FUND WAS TO EXPOSE IN-
ADEQUACY OF PRESENT LEVEL OF SOVIET DEVELOPMENT AID. HE
OPINED THAT DEVELOPMENT BY U.N. OF INSTRUMENT FOR REPORT-
ING MILITARY EXPENDITURES (MILEX) -- AN EXERCISE
CHAMPIONED BY SWEDES -- IS FUTILE SINCE SOVIETS WILL
ALWAYS FIND WAYS ARTIFICIALLY TO DEFLATE THEIR MILITARY
BUDGET. LEONARD RESPONDED THAT U.S. BELIEVES UN MILEX
EXERCISE IS USEFUL WAY TO PRESSURE SOVIETS TOWARD GREATER
OPENNESS. LEONARD SAID VICE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH WILL
PROBABLY NOTE THAT IF MILEX ARE RESTRAINED, MORE RESOURCES
WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR BETTER USES. HE ADDED THAT MONDALE

SPEECH WILL PROBABLY ALSO ALLUDE TO FACT SOVIETS ARE
MAKING INADEQUATE CONTRIBUTION TO DEVELOPMENT AID.

7. GISCARD AND MONDALE SPEECHES - TAITTINGER REPORTED
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THAT PRESIDENT GISCARD'S SPEECH WILL BE GENERAL AND
PHILOSOPHICAL. LEONARD SAID VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE'S
SPEECH WILL NOT UNVEIL DRAMATIC NEW INITIATIVES, THOUGH
THERE WILL BE SOME NEW PROPOSALS (E.G., ON STABILIZING
MEASURES).

8. FUTURE CONSULTATIONS - IT WAS AGREED U.S. AND FRANCE
SHOULD REMAIN IN CLOSE CONTACT DURING SSOD.
TAITTINGER AND GERGORIN REPORTED THAT THEY WILL BE IN
NEW YORK ONLY FOR FIRST TEN DAYS OF SSOD; THEY WILL
SUBSEQUENTLY RETURN TO NEW YORK AS NECESSARY. YOUNG

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